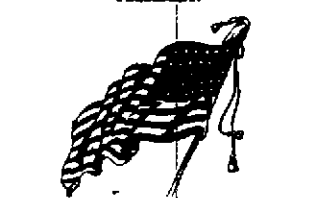


BOUETTE & BURR, PROPRIETORS.
C. A. BOUETTE, Editor.

MONDAY, DEC. 11, 1890.

THE BATTLE WON—HAYES OUR NEXT PRESIDENT.



The people have passed through a protracted period of intense excitement and nothing but malice or mischief can properly be ascribed to the people. They have been weary of the struggle which has been practically and definitely decided. They have wanted to receive unquestionable advice concerning the casting of the Electoral votes in every State in order to make sure that none of Mr. Tilden's desperate devices would affect the final result, and we now state without qualification that the result is a foregone conclusion. A Wheeler has received the electoral and unquestioned majority and that they will undoubtedly be declared elected and be duly inaugurated as the next President and Vice President of the United States.

It is the Democrats who continue filibustering tactics to the end of course except but the more sagacious leaders of that party already recognize defeat and perceive that defeat will be made the more disastrous by the disreputable tactics attempted and the threats of violence uttered by fraudulent demagogues. They see that Tilden has played a desperate game and lost, and that after staking all on a hazy chance that has disgusted the whole North and failed of its object, he will only sink the party deeper if it continues to follow him into any revolutionary schemes. The Oregon outrage was the last step upon which Tilden hung his hopes, and it has broken under the weight of its own rascality. The merits of the case are so obvious and the well recognized principles so deliberately violated by the infamous Grover have been so fully set forth on both Democratic and Republican authority in our columns, that it is not entitled to discussion. The Oregon outrage (Governor and his confederate Cronin) are recognized everywhere by sane people as constituting a monstrous fraud which stains itself. Respectable Democrats disown it and limit their remarks to a claim that the case may serve them as an excuse for assuming the rights of Congress to go behind the returns that have been certified as well. But this is an entirely delusive and can be disposed of by cogent arguments from the Democrats themselves.

The pretence that the 22d Joint Rule has no existing vitality has been effectively disposed of in the Senate by a vote of 30 to 4 only four Democrats out of the twenty-eight in that body having the hardihood to sustain it in the face of the overwhelming record of a whole matter of counting and declaring the Electoral vote, therefore, rests solely upon the provisions of Article VII of the Amendments of the Constitution, the provisions of which have been thoroughly discussed and expounded by the leading Democrats of the Senate and no one else with authority to open all the certificates, and the clause proceeds to say "and the votes shall then be counted." That the President of the Senate is made by this Amendment the sole judge as to what are all the certificates is established by a long line of precedent and has now been emphatically and unanimously maintained by leading Democratic members of the United States Senate on the very first session (the first that Congress has any right to interfere or participate except as mere witnesses, found no fault with the men who now head the Democratic forces in the Senate. Mr. Bayard of Delaware, one of the recognized chiefs of Democracy, said "The two Houses of Congress were intended to be the judges of the Electoral vote of the people of this country." Apparently by the Constitution, their duties would be to count and witness the counting and the presence in that way, as is supposed to be a sound principle.

Senator Whittle, of Maryland, one of the most famous champions of Democracy, was even more explicit and emphatic in repeating the idea that either house or both acting separately or together could have anything to do with the Electoral vote, except to be present as witnesses to the counting by the President and the Senate. He said "It belongs to the President and the Senate to count the Electoral vote, and he went on to declare that if he differed with those who doubt for a moment that our fathers meant to leave it in the power of the President of the Senate to open the certificates, to state the votes of the people of the State, and to declare what the people had determined should be the future they will find that this when asked this direct and simple question, 'When there are two returns, and the Senate is to be the return of a State, does the Senator hold that the Vice-President is authorized to select the return which is to be counted?' Mr. Whittle answered in the following emphatic language 'I do not think so.' The proper person to state which vote shall be counted, because the Constitution has put it in his hands." He fortified this assertion by citing precedents from the earliest history of the Government, and with the urgency that it was safer and more advisable than to divide the responsibility.

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In the face of this party record not even Tilden's craft can find plausible excuse for forcing the House into a revolutionary act. The duty of the President of the Senate being thus fully conceded, the case can be no question as to the legitimate and proper course for him to pursue with regard to the Oregon vote. The whole performance of Cronin was a huge blunder as well as a fraud, and the very gubernatorial certificate which he boasts bears in itself the most conclusive evidence of the spurious nature of the return, by which one man assumes to be a plurality of three, to substitute his own candidates in place of and against the protest of the two regularly elected members, and to pretend thereupon to cast the Electoral vote of a State which he never chosen to represent.

On the other hand, the two Republican members, shown by the State certificate of the election, as well as by the Governor's certificate to Cronin, to be the majority of the Electoral College, also show in their returns that the membership of the Board was regularly filled in accordance with law and that the three votes of the State were cast in accordance with the officially declared and undisputed will of the people.

The case can safely be rested on the solid basis of the Constitution, and we have little doubt in the feasibility or advisability of putting up any crude and doubtful expedients as a substitute for the Constitutional provisions under which the election was held. That the system can and should be improved is generally conceded, but we have had too much experience in hasty dealing with important subjects to warrant tinkering the Constitution in one of its most vital parts in any impulsive or slapdash manner. The proposal to make the Supreme Court a political returning board seems to us at sight to be extremely objectionable as calculated to disturb the composure of our triple system and to prove a damage to the country. It is improbable that any such radical change be made with the railroad speed proposed.

But we stand now on the Constitution of the United States as it is, in accordance with that Constitution Rufus B. Hayes and William A. Wheeler have been duly chosen by 183 Electoral votes of twenty-one States of the Union to the highest office in the country, and in accordance with the provisions of that Constitution they must unquestionably be declared elected and inaugurated. Rest the case right there, and let the Democrats have a monopoly of all the excitement they can create hereafter by sensational reports or the blustering of demagogues. The battle is won, and Governor Hayes will be our next President.

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THE OREGON ELECTION. A press dispatch from Portland, Oregon, says that Watts said positively, in an interview Friday, that when Secretary Chandler slipped the certificates of election through the door into Cronin's hand the other electoral candidates present asked what the sealed envelope contained. Cronin answered that it contained certificates of election. Watts, Cartwright and Odell asked to see the certificates, and Cronin refused to do so. The request was made three times by each of the gentlemen named, and was each time denied. They then demanded that he should produce the certificates, and Cronin refused in the most emphatic terms, at the same time thrusting the envelope in his breast-pocket and bolting his coat.

Mr. Watts avers there was no person in the room except Cartwright, Odell, Cronin and himself. Those who say they claimed were certificates. So far as they had positive or indirect knowledge the envelope contained nothing except blank slips. Cronin claimed that he was an elector, and said he had a certificate, and asked permission to see Cartwright and Odell. These gentlemen did not refuse to let him to recognize or to act with him. They were not to be so easily deceived. They said that he should exhibit his certificate and show that he had a right to a seat in the Electoral College. This he also positively refused to do. Cronin withdrew, and declared that as the other two gentlemen refused to act there existed two vacancies in the board, and he proceeded to fill, appointing Miller and Parker, two staunch Democrats, and then cast the so-called Electoral ballot of the State.

The Republican electors, after casting the Electoral vote proper to the State, and after a full and complete statement of what took place in the room, made out returns, and attached certified copies of the official canvass of the insulated vote of the State under the great seal of the State and forwarded the same to the President of the Senate. All this was done in the presence and under the supervision of citizens of standing, and was done in full compliance with the laws of the State.

Senator Mitchell gave a plain statement of the facts at the Republican caucus Friday evening, which gave rise to a very full expression of views upon the Constitutional and legal points involved, in which Senators Morton and Edmunds and others took part, all of which went to show that the Senators that they need not have any fears of the result.

THE OREGON OUTRAGE. (From the New York Tribune.) The Democrats have been hunting up the qualifications and titles of Republican electors in the State of Oregon, and the polls closed, and the purpose of defeating in some way the electors who pressed will of the people. They do not appear to have succeeded in any case, though they are quite hopeful of having accomplished something in Oregon by the use of the Electoral vote, at least to compel the Senate to go behind the proceedings of the Returning Boards in the disputed Southern States. What may be their object, there can be no doubt in the minds of impartial and far-seeing men that the Oregon performance was simply a bold and unscrupulous attempt to reap the Electoral vote. Still a hard word, and to offer no apology for using the words of impartial and far-seeing men that the Oregon performance was simply a bold and unscrupulous attempt to reap the Electoral vote. Still a hard word, and to offer no apology for using the words of impartial and far-seeing men that the Oregon performance was simply a bold and unscrupulous attempt to reap the Electoral vote.

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Wade Hampton's address made in reply to the speech Gov. Chamberlain had provoked enough for harsh words. "If the House were to elect a Speaker, I should choose to elect the speaker who would feel himself bound under a great weight of responsibility and borne down with suffering for a cause which he must abandon. It is a manly speech, and will win him friends."

THE OREGON ELECTION. A press dispatch from Portland, Oregon, says that Watts said positively, in an interview Friday, that when Secretary Chandler slipped the certificates of election through the door into Cronin's hand the other electoral candidates present asked what the sealed envelope contained. Cronin answered that it contained certificates of election. Watts, Cartwright and Odell asked to see the certificates, and Cronin refused to do so. The request was made three times by each of the gentlemen named, and was each time denied. They then demanded that he should produce the certificates, and Cronin refused in the most emphatic terms, at the same time thrusting the envelope in his breast-pocket and bolting his coat.

Mr. Watts avers there was no person in the room except Cartwright, Odell, Cronin and himself. Those who say they claimed were certificates. So far as they had positive or indirect knowledge the envelope contained nothing except blank slips. Cronin claimed that he was an elector, and said he had a certificate, and asked permission to see Cartwright and Odell. These gentlemen did not refuse to let him to recognize or to act with him. They were not to be so easily deceived. They said that he should exhibit his certificate and show that he had a right to a seat in the Electoral College. This he also positively refused to do. Cronin withdrew, and declared that as the other two gentlemen refused to act there existed two vacancies in the board, and he proceeded to fill, appointing Miller and Parker, two staunch Democrats, and then cast the so-called Electoral ballot of the State.

The Republican electors, after casting the Electoral vote proper to the State, and after a full and complete statement of what took place in the room, made out returns, and attached certified copies of the official canvass of the insulated vote of the State under the great seal of the State and forwarded the same to the President of the Senate. All this was done in the presence and under the supervision of citizens of standing, and was done in full compliance with the laws of the State.

Senator Mitchell gave a plain statement of the facts at the Republican caucus Friday evening, which gave rise to a very full expression of views upon the Constitutional and legal points involved, in which Senators Morton and Edmunds and others took part, all of which went to show that the Senators that they need not have any fears of the result.

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